

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Personnel—"The Governor and Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General and the Solicitors, the Comptroller General, the State Superintendent of Education, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Director of the Department of Insurance" (1976 Code, Sec. 1-1-110).

Terms of Office—"All terms 4 years. Under Constitution, Governor eligible to be elected to two successive terms." Art. IV, Secs. 3, 4.

Vacancies—In case of vacancy in the office of Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Comptroller General, or Attorney General the vacancy shall be filled by election by the General Assembly, unless they occur during legislative recess, when the Governor shall fill by appointment until election at next session.—1976 Code, Sec. 1-1-120.

In case of vacancy in the office of Solicitor, State Superintendent of Education, the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Director of Department of Insurance the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Governor.—1976 Code, Secs. 1-1-110 and 1-3-220.

GOVERNOR

Henry D. McMaster

(for biography and picture see p. 15)

Chief Magistrate of the State with "supreme executive authority" (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 1). Serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the organized and unorganized militia of the State (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 13). The Governor shall serve a term of 4 years, with installation on the first Wednesday following the second Tuesday in January after the election (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 4; S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 1-3-110). The Governor serves as *ex officio* member of various state boards and commissions. If the office of the Governor is vacant for any reason, it shall be filled by the Lieutenant Governor for the remainder of the term (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Secs. 6, 11; S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 1-3-130).

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Pamela Evette (for biography and picture see p. 18)

The Lieutenant Governor is elected jointly with the Governor as a single vote on the ballot (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Secs. 8A, 8C). The Lieutenant Governor shall continue in office for the same time period as the Governor—4 years (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 8A). Installation of the Lieutenant Governor shall occur on the first Wednesday following the second Tuesday in January after the election (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 8A; S.C. Code of Ann. Sec. 1-3-110). The Lieutenant Governor serves in a part-time position (S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 1-3-620). In the event the Lieutenant Governor is removed from office, or the office becomes vacant for any reason, the Governor shall appoint, with advice and consent of the Senate, a successor to serve as Lieutenant Governor until the next election (S.C. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11; S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 1-3-125).

SECRETARY OF STATE

Edgar Brown Bldg., Suite 525, Columbia 29201
Tel. (803) 734-2170

The Secretary of State is responsible for the statewide registration of corporations, Uniform Commercial Code interests, business opportunities, employment agencies, trademarks, notaries, apostilles, and cable franchise authority. This office handles the incorporation of municipalities and special purpose districts, the annexation of land, and the escheatment of real property in South Carolina. The Secretary of State is the administrator and regulator of all charitable laws of this State. The Secretary of State is the custodian of Acts ratified each year by the General Assembly and handles the publication of positions within certain statewide boards and commissions. The Secretary of State is an *ex officio* member of the Legislative Council and the Commission on Consumer Affairs.

Secretary of State—MARK HAMMOND (2003–23)
1205 Pendleton St., Suite 525, Columbia 29201
Tel. (803) 734-2170, Fax (803) 734-1661

HAMMOND, J. Mark [R]—(Spartanburg Co.)—*b.* Nov. 29, 1963 in Lancaster; *s.* John G., Jr. and Bonnie Hammond; *g.* Newberry Coll., B.A., 1986; Clemson Univ., M.Ed., 1988; June 23, 1990 *m.* Ginny Hudson, 3 children; Spartanburg Co. Clerk of Court, 1997–03; 7th Circuit Solicitor’s Office, Criminal Investigator, 1991–96; Special Basic Training, S.C. Criminal Justice Academy, 1991; Juvenile Probation Off., 1988–89; Del., Rep. Natl. Convention, 2004, 2008, 2020; Chm., Intl. Relations Com. of the Natl. Assn. of Secys. of State (NASS), 2006–07, 2010–11, 2014–15; Outstanding Alumni, Shrine Bowl Award for Public Serv., 2006; Henry Toll Fellow, Council of State Govt., 2007; Sesquicentennial Medal of Honor Award; Outstanding Alumni, Newberry Coll., 2007; Chm., Bus. Servs. Com. (NASS), 2008–09, Co-Chm., 2018–19; Trustee, Spartanburg Methodist Coll., 2009–15; NASS Medallion Award, 2017; inducted into the South Atlantic Conference Hall of Fame as a Distinguished Alumnus (Newberry Coll.), 2019; mem., Westminster Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg; elected Secy. of State Nov. 5, 2002, serving continuously since.



Dep. Secy. of State & Chief

Legal CounselMelissa W. Dunlap
Gen. Counsel & Public Info. Dir.Shannon A. Wiley
Dep. Gen. CounselMeredith Augustine

Division of Business Filings

Tel. (803) 734-2345

The Division of Business Filings is responsible for the registration of business entities including corporations and non-profit organizations, and filing Uniform Commercial Code documents.

Dir. of Bus. FilingsJody Steigerwalt

Division of Notaries, Boards and Commissions

Tel. (803) 734-2512

The Division of Notaries, Boards and Commissions is responsible for the registration of notaries, authentications, filing executive orders and ratified acts, and monitoring state boards and commissions.

Dir.Katarina F. Watkins

Division of Public Charities

Tel. (803) 734-1790

The Division of Public Charities is responsible for the regulation of charitable organizations pursuant to the South Carolina Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act.

Dir. Kimberly S. Wickersham

STATE TREASURER

1200 Senate St., Suite 214

Columbia 29201, Tel. (803) 734-2101

The State Treasurer is the "private banker" for South Carolina. He is responsible for the investment, cash management, and safekeeping of more than \$60 Billion in public funds, including the State's general and restricted funds. The State Treasurer coordinates banking relationships for the State; issues state debt including the payment of and principal and interest on outstanding debt issues; communicates with bonding rating services; and is administrator for the South Carolina Unclaimed Property Program; the South Carolina Tuition Prepayment Program; Future Scholar, South Carolina's 529 College Savings Plan; and the Palmetto ABLE Savings Program.

The Treasurer is Vice Chairman of the State Fiscal Accountability Authority. The Authority is at the core of South Carolina's State Government, handling functions such as State Procurement, State Insurance Programs, Budget Office, and State Auditor's Office. The Authority members also approve the actuary of the Public Employee Benefit Authority.

The Treasurer is the Chairman of the State Board of Financial Institutions, which supervises State-chartered banks, credit unions, and savings and loans through the Banking Division, and supervises mortgage originators and lenders, finance companies, payday lenders, and title lenders through its Consumer Finance Division.

The Treasurer serves as the Vice Chairman of the South Carolina Tobacco Authority, which administers the tobacco settlement funds, and Vice Chairman of the South Carolina Education Authority. In both roles, he acts as the custodian of the Authorities' funds.

The Treasurer also appoints a member of the South Carolina Retirement System Investment Commission, which manages the System's \$41 Billion investment pool.

State Treasurer—CURTIS M. LOFTIS, JR. (2011–23)

LOFTIS, Curtis M., Jr. [R]—(Lexington Co.)—Businessman; *b.* Sept. 8 in Columbia; *s.* Curtis M. and the late Mary Knox Loftis; *g.* Univ. of S.C., 1981; Dir., S.C. Office on Aging, 2007–08; Dir. of Transparency, S.C. Comptroller Gen. Office, 2008–09; awarded 2013 “Friend of the Taxpayer” and 2020 Columbia Regional Business Report Midlands Icon; 2018 NAST Southern Regional VP; S.C. Financial Literacy Board of Trustees, 2019–; 2020 CSPN Exec. Board member; past Pres. of NAUPA; elected State Treas. Nov. 2, 2010, serving continuously since.



Chief of Staff Clarissa T. Adams
Dep. State Treas. Cynthia G. Dannels
Dep. State Treas. Tonia L. Morris
Gen. Counsel Shelly B. Kelly
Div. Dir.s.: Admin., Marissa Evans; *Banking & Investments*,
 Melissa Simmons; *Communications*, Karen Ingram;
Debt & Internal Audit, Richard Hutto; *Info. Technology*,
 Tom Harmon; *Programs*, Dayle DeLong; *Treasury Man-*
agement, Perry Breazeale
Legis. Liaison & Special. Asst. to Treas. . . . Edward Frazier

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dennis Bldg., Box 11549, Columbia 29211

Tel. (803) 734-3970

www.scag.gov

Duties—The Attorney General is the head of the legal department of the State of South Carolina; supervises all litigation in which the State or any of its departments, boards, commissions, or institutions are parties; advises all state officers, departments, agencies, and institutions on legal matters; required to attend the sessions of the General Assembly when requested and advise the members thereof. In addition to representing the State and its departments and agencies, he represents certain county officers in litigation against them and

supervises Statewide Grand Jury. While the 16 Solicitors of the State generally conduct prosecutions in criminal matters, the Attorney General has general supervisory responsibility in the prosecutorial area.

The Attorney General also serves as the State's Securities Commissioner, overseeing the registration of all persons engaged in the sale of securities in the State of South Carolina, investigating allegations of fraud or other violations of securities laws, and taking appropriate enforcement action.

Attorney General—ALAN MCCRORY WILSON (2011–23)
P.O. Box 11549, Columbia 29211



WILSON, Alan McCrory [R]—(Lexington Co.)—Atty.; *b.* July 16, 1973 in Ft. Wolters, Tex.; *s.* Joe and Roxanne Wilson; *g.* Francis Marion Univ., B.S., 1996; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 2002; Sept. 30, 2006 *m.* Jennifer Miskewicz, 2 children, Michael and Anna Grace; Eagle Scout recipient, Boy Scouts of America, 1991; Charter mem., West Metro Rotary Club, West Columbia, 2002–; Bd. mem.: Midlands Mental Health Assn., 2001–02; World Affairs Council, 2002–07; Asst. Solicitor, 11th Judicial Circuit, 2003–06; Asst. Atty. Gen., 2007–09; Chm., Chinquapin Dist. of the Indian Waters Council, 2008; lifetime mem., Natl. Rifle Assn.; Chm., The Rep. Atty. Gen. Assn. (RAGA), 2013–14; mem., First Presbyterian Church, 1978–; mil. serv.: SCNG, 1996–; Col.; Operation Iraqi Freedom II, 2005–06; elected Atty. Gen. Nov. 2, 2010, serving continuously since.

Chief Dep. Atty. Gen. Jeff Young
Communications Dir. Robert Kittle
Dir. Govt. Relations Matthew Gates
Senior Exec. Asst. DeLinda Ridings
Dir., Public Affairs Matt Wills

COMPTROLLER GENERAL

305 Wade Hampton Office Bldg., 1200 Senate St.
Columbia 29201, Tel. (803) 734-2588
e-mail: cgooffice@cg.sc.gov
www.cg.sc.gov

The Comptroller General is the State's chief fiscal and accounting officer and also serves on the State Fiscal

Accountability Authority. The Comptroller's Office is the "watchdog of the public purse." The Office oversees and processes all state spending, and it administers and processes the State payroll. The Office controls the receipt and disbursement of public funds; reports annually on the financial operations and condition of state government; maintains the State's fiscal transparency website that includes state agencies, school districts, and colleges and universities (see link at www.cg.sc.gov); and advises state agencies on fiscal and accounting matters. The Office maintains the State's centralized accounting system, and at the end of every fiscal year its staff of professional accountants produces the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Comptroller General— RICHARD ECKSTROM, CPA (2003–23)
(Resigned effective April 30, 2023)

ECKSTROM, Richard A. [R]—(Lexington Co.)—Certified Public Accountant; *b.* June 23, 1948 in Duluth, MN; *s.* Clifford and Virginia Eckstrom; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.S., 1971, M.B.A., 1977, Master of Accountancy, 1978; *m.* Kelly Payne, 3 children; Adjunct Faculty, Queens Coll., Charlotte, 1979–80; Pres., Greenville Breakfast Rotary Club, 1986–87, 1993–94; Bd.



Chm., Greenville Mental Health Center Bd., 1987–90; Chm., Greenville Voc. Rehab. Bus. Adv. Bd., 1989–90; mem., State Mental Health Comm., 1991–94; Chm., Univ. of S.C. Friends of Accounting Dept., 2001–02; mem., Gov.'s MAP Comm., 2003; Chm., State Mil. Base Task Force, 2003–13; Pres., Natl. Assn. of State Comptrollers, 2013–14; Pres., Natl. Assn. of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treas., 2021–22; mem., Exec. Com., Univ. of S.C. School of Accounting Adv. Bd., 2019–22; Chm., S.C. Fourth Congressional Dist. Rep. Party, 1991–93; State Del., Rep. Natl. Convention, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008; Life mem.: Naval Reserve Assn., Natl. Rifle Assn.; mem.: Gun Owners of S.C., Heritage Foundation, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; recipient: Order of the Palmetto, S.C. Palmetto Cross, President's Award from Natl. Guard Assn. of S.C.; mil. serv.: commissioned in USN, 1971; served 3 years of active duty conducting oceanographic research; USNR, 1973–95, attained rank of Navy Capt.;

Comdr., S.C. State Guard, 2011–14, attained rank of Major Gen. (SCSG); mem., First Presbyterian Church, Cola.; State Treas., 1994–98; elected Comptroller Gen. Nov. 2002, serving continuously since.

Chief of Staff Eddie Gunn

Senior Asst. Comptroller Gen.,

Financial Reporting David Starkey, CPA

Senior Asst. Comptroller Gen.,

Statewide Payroll/Accounts Payable .. Ronnie Head, CPA

Senior Asst. Comptroller Gen.,

Statewide Accounting Kathy Johnson, CPA

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1429 Senate St., 1006 Rutledge Bldg., Columbia 29201

Tel. (803) 734-8500; e-mail: info@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) provides leadership and support to ensure a system of public education through which all students graduate prepared for success in college, careers, and citizenship through the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.

The SCDE administers state and federal appropriations for pre-kindergarten-12 education in compliance with all laws and regulations. State appropriations include funding for agency administration, accountability, school effectiveness, instructional materials, transportation, standards and learning, assessment, educator services, charter schools, and school districts.

State Supt. of Education— ELLEN E. WEAVER (2023–27)

Tel. (803) 734-8500; e-mail: info@ed.sc.gov



WEAVER, Ellen E. [R]—(Richland Co.)— *b.* March 26 in Greenville; *d.* Mark and Marcia H. Weaver; *g.* Bob Jones Univ., B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2001, M.S., 2022; Exec. Asst., Speechwriter, Sr. Adv., State Dir., Off. of U.S. Sen. Jim DeMint, 2001–12; Founding Pres. & CEO, Palmetto Promise Inst., 2013–22; mem. and Chm., 2019–21, S.C. Education Oversight Committee,

2016–22; Lt. Gov., S.C. Student Legislature 2000–01; Amer. Legion School Medal, women's graduate, 2001; mem. and Paul Harris Fellow, Columbia Rotary Club, 2010–14; bd.

mem., S.C. Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities, 2018–22; mem., deacon, chorister, and volunteer for special needs ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia 2010–; elected State Supt. of Educ. Nov. 8, 2022.

Chief of StaffLarry Huff

Interim. Dep. Supt.,

Dist. OperationsVirgie Chambers, MPA

Dept. Supt.,

Curriculum & InstructionMatthew Ferguson

Dep. Supt., Gen. CounselJohn Tyler

Chief Fin. Off.Nancy Williams

Dir., Govt. AffairsPhillip Cease

Asst. Dir., Govt. AffairsLisa Manini Widener

Exec. Asst.Deanne Myrick

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

527 Wade Hampton Office Bldg., Box 11280

Columbia 29211, Tel. (803) 734-2210

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture was created in 1879 for the purpose of fostering agriculture in South Carolina and is responsible for the enforcement of more than 30 statutes relating to agriculture. These activities range from providing consumer protection in weights and measures to bonded storage for non-perishable agricultural products and marketing programs of an objective motive such as grading, inspection and market news programs on livestock, fruits, vegetables, grain, and poultry products. It also provides for the establishment and supervision of marketing authorities in communities throughout the State, the development and construction of grading, storage, and other facilities necessary for optimum performance of the agricultural marketing processes. Agriculture and agri-business is a growth industry in South Carolina.

Commissioner—HUGH E. WEATHERS (2005–23)
Bowman



WEATHERS, Hugh Ervin [R]—(Orangeburg Co.)—4th generation farmer, Weathers Farms Inc., Partner, Circle W. Farms, Owner, Weathers Trucking Inc.; *b.* June 27, 1956; *s.* Lawrence and Frances Weathers; *g.* Univ. of S.C., *magna cum laude*, B.S., 1978; awarded hon. Doctorate of Service, 2019; *m.* Blanche Gramling Weathers, 3 children, Gill, Edward, and Julius,

5 grandchildren; past Pres., Amer. Dairy Assn. of S.C., 1987–04; Chm., S.C. Farm Bureau Legis. Comm., 2000–04; S.C. Farm Bureau PAC Comm., 2001–04; Bd. mem., United Dairy Industries Assn., 1994–98; S.C. Dairy Assn., 1996–01; S.C. Conservation Bank, 2001–04; AgSouth Farm Credit Assn., 1997–; Greater Bowman Bus. Dev. Council, 2002–04; mem.: S.C. DHEC Task Force on Livestock Regulations, 1996, NASDA; Pres., Southern United States Trade Assn., 2007–09; Pres., Southern Assn. of State Depts. of Agric., 2011–12; S.C. Dairy Hall of Fame Inductee, 2011; Bd. mem., Catch the Vision Ministry, 2016–; mem., Orangeburg First Baptist Church; apptd. interim Comr. Sept. 14, 2004; apptd. Comr. Jan. 17, 2005; elected Comr. Nov. 7, 2006, serving continuously since.

Administration

Wade Hampton Office Bldg., Fifth Floor
Box 11280, Columbia 29211
Tel. (803) 734-2210

Exec. Asst. to the Comr.Cristina Key
Asst. Comr., Ag. OperationsAaron Wood
Asst. Comr., Ext. Affairs/Econ. Dev.Clint Leach
Dir., Budget & Fin.Louis Anderson
Dir., Public Info.Eva Moore
Gen. CounselAlden Dalton

Consumer Services Protection Div.

123 Ballard Court, W. Columbia 29172
Laboratory Tel. (803) 737-9700
Consumer Services Tel. (803) 737-9690

Asst. Comr., Consumer ProtectionDerek Underwood
Dir., Consumer Servs.John Stokes

Dir., Laboratory Servs.Dr. Adam Leaphart
Dir., Food Safety & Compliance ...Angie Culler-Matthews
Mgr., Produce SafetyKelly Johnson
Mgr., Feed Safety & ComplianceAustin Therell
Prog. Coordinator, Hemp Farming Prog.Will Attaway

Metrology Laboratory

129 Ballard Court, W. Columbia 29172
Tel. (803) 734-2375

Dir.Timothy Jones

State Farmers Market

208 Wholesale Lane, W. Columbia 29172
Tel. (803) 737-4664

Mgr.Brad Boozer

Greenville State Farmers Market

1354 Rutherford Rd., Greenville 29609
Tel. (864) 244-4023

Asst. Mgr.Lia Sanders

Pee Dee State Farmers Market

2513 W. Lucas St., Florence 29501
Tel. (843) 665-5154

Dir.Bob Sager

Federal State Inspection Services

117 Ballard Court, W. Columbia 29172
Tel. (803) 737-4588

Dir.Kellie Taylor